

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 L-03 FRB-01 OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNCTAD, EFIN

SUBJECT: UNCTAD COMMODITY CONSULTATIONS: REPLY OF SYG COREA
TO LETTER FROM DAS BOSWORTH

REF: STATE 207962 (NOTAL, STATE 208183)

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF SEPTEMBER 10 LETTER FROM UNCTAD
SECRETARY GENERAL GAMANI COREA TO DEPUTY ASSISTANT
SECRETARY BOSWORTH REPLYING TO BOSWORTH LETTER OF
AUGUST 23 TO HIM:

DEAR MR. BOSWORTH,

I WISH TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR LETTER OF 23 AUGUST IN WHICH YOU
CONVEYED TO ME YOUR GOVERNMENT'S VIEWS ON THE ORGANIZATION OF
MEETINGS UNDER THE UNCTAD RESOLUTION ON COMMODITIES ADOPTED BY
THE CONFERENCE AT NAIROBI. IN YOUR LETTER YOU RAISE THREE ISSUES,
RELATING TO THE TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS, THE ROLE OF EXISTING
COMMODITY ORGANIZATIONS AND FORUMS, AND PARTICIPATION BY MEMBER
GOVERNMENTS IN THE INDIVIDUAL COMMODITY MEETINGS.

ON THE TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS, I SHOULD LIKE TO SAY THAT, IN
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PROPOSING THAT THE AD HOC INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE TO BE

ESTABLISHED BY THE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD HOLD ITS FIRST

MEETING IN NOVEMBER, ACCOUNT HAD BEEN TAKEN OF THE FACT THAT THE 16TH SESSION OF THE BOARD WOULD BE ENDING ON 22 OCTOBER AND THAT GOVERNMENTS MIGHT WELL REQUIRE A BREAK BEFORE THE FIRST SESSION OF THE AD HOC INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE. FURTHER, THERE WAS THE POSSIBLE RESUMPTION OF THE PARIS MEETINGS (NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE) SCHEDULED FOR 20-27 OCTOBER, ATTENDANCE AT WHICH WAS LIKELY TO INVOLVE MORE OR LESS THE SAME GOVERNMENT REPS WHO WOULD BE PARTICIPATING AT THE MEETING OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE. THESE CONSIDERATIONS STILL SEEM IMPORTANT, HOWEVER, THE PRESENT ARRANGEMENT DOES NOT, OF COURSE, DEROGATE FROM THE PREROGATIVE OF THE BOARD TO FIX A DIFFERENT DATE AT ITS 16TH SESSION, IF GOVERNMENTS SO WISHED. IN SIMILAR VEIN, HAVING REGARD TO PARAGRAPH 4 OF SECTION IV OF RESOLUTION 93 (IV) IN WHICH THE CONFERENCE REQUESTED THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF UNCTAD TO CONVENE MEETINGS ON INDIVIDUAL COMMODITIES COMMENCING IN SEPTEMBER 1976 AND BEARING IN MIND, AS POINTED OUT IN THE NOTE VERBALE OF 30 JULY, THAT IN THE CASE OF COPPER MANY GOVERNMENTS, BOTH PRODUCING AND CONSUMING, HAD EXPRESSED VIEWS IN FAVOUR OF FURTHER MEETINGS THIS YEAR, I FELT OBLIGED TO SCHEDULE A NUMBER OF MEETINGS EVEN BEFORE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE AD HOC INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE. THE AD HOC COMMITTEE, THE ESTABLISHED, CAN OF COURSE DECIDE ON THE FUTURE TIMETABLE IN THE LIGHT OF PREVAILING CIRCUMSTANCES AND ON THE BASIS OF PROPOSALS WHICH I SHALL BE MAKING.

AS REGARDS THE ROLE OF EXISTING COMMODITY ORGANIZATIONS, I HAVE BEEN GUIDED BY THE PROVISIONS OF PARAGRAPHS 4 AND 6 OF SECTION IV OF THE RESOLUTION. ACCORDINGLY, I AM IN CONSULTATION WITH EXECUTIVE HEADS OF THE ORGANIZATIONS CONCERNED AND HAVE ALREADY SOUGHT THE CO-OPERATION OF SOME OF THEM, NOTABLY FAO, IN IMPLEMENTING THE RESOLUTION, IN PARTICULAR WITH REGARD TO THE TIMING OF MEETINGS AND THE PREPARATION OF DOCUMENTS. IT WOULD BE FOR GOVERNMENTS, EITHER AT THE 16TH SESSION OF THE BOARD OR ON THE OCCASION OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE AD HOC INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE, TO REVIEW THE PROCEDURES IF NEED BE.

FINALLY, IT WOULD NOT SEEM APPROPRIATE FOR THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF UNCTAD IN SO IMPORTANT A MATTER AS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF UNCLASSIFIED

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THIS RESOLUTION TO DECIDE OR DETERMINE ON HIS OWN WHICH MEMBER STATES COULD ATTEND OR NOT ATTEND MEETINGS ON INDIVIDUAL COMMODITIES. THE CRITERIA FOR SUCH ACTION ON HIS PART WOULD BE VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO ESTABLISH AND ESPECIALLY FOR CONSUMING COUNTRIES. IN THE ABSENCE OF AGREED CRITERIA, IT IS FOR INDIVIDUAL GOVERNMENTS TO DETERMINE THEMSELVES WHETHER OR NOT TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY PARTICULAR MEETING.

IN CONCLUDING THIS LETTER, I AM PLEASED TO NOTE THE ASSURANCE THAT THE US GOVERNMENT IS COMMITTED TO ENSURING THAT THE MEETINGS ON INDIVIDUAL COMMODITIES SHOULD FULLY AND EFFECTIVELY EXAMINE ALL THE PROBLEMS AFFECTING THE PARTICULAR COMMODITY UNDER REVIEW IN ORDER TO DETERMINE APPROPRIATE MEASURES FOR REMEDIAL ACTION. CONSIDERING THE VERY LIMITED TIME FRAME WITHIN WHICH ACTION UNDER THE RESOLUTION SHOULD BE COMPLETED, THERE IS INDEED A NEED FOR THE TIMELY SCHEDULING OF MEETINGS IN ORDER TO ALLOW GOVERNMENTS SUFFICIENT TIME FOR ADEQUATE PREPARATION AND ACTION.

I SHOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SAY THAT I TOO ENJOYED VERY MUCH MEETING YOU IN PARIS AND THAT I LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING YOU AGAIN.

YOURS SINCERELY,

GAMANI COREA
SECRETARY-GENERAL OF UNCTAD

2. WE REPEATING ALL OECD CAPITALS. ASSUME WASHINGTON
WILL HAVE REPEATED TO OTHER ADDRESSEES OF STATE 208183
IF DESIRED. CATTO

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